Claims

[c1] 1. An arrangement for securing a load carrier to a transporting vehicle, the arrangement comprising:
an anchor mechanism adapted for securement to the transporting vehicle and for releasably receiving a carrier foot, the carrier foot including a push-button actuator for configuring the carrier foot between secured and unsecured configurations;
a housing encasing the carrier foot, wherein the push-button actuator extends through and is at least partially exposed by an opening in the housing thus permitting operator manipulation of the push button actuator; and
a sliding cover having a substantially planar surface, sized to substantially cover the opening in the housing, wherein the sliding cover is positionable, in relation to the opening, and wherein the cover has an open position, a closed position, and a continuum of positions therebetween with respect to the opening.

[c2] 2. The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the sliding cover further includes one or more frictional ridges upon an outer surface of the sliding cover for facilitating changes in the position of the sliding cover

cover.

[c3] 3. The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the sliding cover is positionable such that the sliding cover will maintain the push-button actuator in a depressed position.

[c4] 4. The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein the sliding cover engages the housing through a tongue-and-groove interface.

[c5] 5. An insert for use in combination with an anchor for securing a load carrier to a transporting vehicle, the transporting vehicle having a channel that is generally "C" shaped in cross section and has a top opening, the insert being a quadrilaterally shaped plate in which a first pair of parallel sides are longer than a second pair of parallel side such that the insert can be positioned inside the channel with the first pair of parallel sides aligned with the top opening and subsequently the insert can be repositioned within said channel so that the first pair of parallel sides and the insert are substantially across the width of the top opening.

[c6] 6. The insert of claim 5, wherein the insert has a parallelogram shape.

[c7] 7. The insert of claim 5, wherein the insert has an

oblique parallelogram shape.

[c8] 8. The insert of claim 5, wherein the insert further comprises at least one insert aperture defined therethrough.

[c9] 9. The insert of claim 8, wherein the insert aperture is threaded so that the insert aperture can receive a corresponding threaded fastener.

[c10] 10. An spacer for use in combination with an anchor and an insert for securing a load carrier to a transporting vehicle, the transporting vehicle having a channel that is generally "C" shaped in cross section and having a top opening, said spacer configured to be positioned substantially within and substantially across the width of the top opening of the channel, and wherein the spacer has defined therethrough at least one spacer aperture.

[c11] 11. An spacer for use in combination with an anchor and an insert for securing a load carrier to a transporting vehicle, the transporting vehicle having a channel that is generally "C" shaped in cross section having slot and a top opening, said spacer comprising a spacer plate having a width that allows the positioning the spacer substantially within and substantially across the width of the top opening of the channel, and at least one spacer aperture defined therethrough for accepting a fastener.

[c12] 12. The spacer of claim 11, wherein the spacer plate has an upper surface and the spacer further comprises a first expanded portion on the lower surface of the spacer plate, the first expanded portion being configured for insertion into the slot of the channel.

[c13] 13. The spacer of claim 11, wherein the spacer plate has a lower surface and the spacer further comprises a pin-portion on the upper surface of the spacer plate, the pin-portion being designed to be received into a recess at the bottom of a base.

[c14] 14. The spacer of claim 11, wherein the spacer aperture is threaded for engaging a corresponding portion of a threaded fastener.

[c15] 15. The spacer of claim 11, wherein the spacer aperture includes a protrusion provided at an interior periphery of the aperture for engaging a portion of a threaded fastener.

[c16] 16. The spacer of claim 11, wherein the spacer plate has an upper and lower surface and the spacer further comprises a first expanded portion on the lower surface of the spacer plate, the first expanded portion being configured for insertion into the slot of the channel and a second expanded portion on the upper surface of the

spacer plate, the second expanded portion being designed to be received into a recess at the bottom of a base.

[c17] 17. An anchor for securing a load carrier to a transporting vehicle, the transporting vehicle having a channel, the channel having a generally C-shaped cross section, the anchor comprising:
a base having defined therethrough at least one base aperture, wherein the base is adapted to be positionable outside and substantially across the width of the top opening of the channel;
at least one insert, wherein each insert adapted is adapted to be positionable inside and substantially across the width of the top opening of the channel at a location substantially under the base, and having defined therethrough at least one insert aperture;
at least one spacer, wherein each spacer is adapted to be positionable substantially within and substantially across the width of the top opening of the channel, and substantially between the base and the insert; and wherein the spacer has defined therethrough at least one spacer aperture; and
at least one fastener, each fastener adapted for insertion through the base aperture, through the spacer aperture, and through the insert aperture thus securing the anchor

to the vehicle and concurrently drawing the insert snugly against the interior side of the top of the channel and drawing the base snugly against the exterior side of the top of the channel.

[c18] 18. The anchor as recited in claim 17, wherein at least a portion of the fastener is threaded, and wherein the insert aperture is correspondingly threaded.

[c19] 19. The anchor as recited in claim 17, wherein the spacer further includes an expanded portion adapted to extend into the interior space of the channel.

[c20] 20. The anchor as recited in claim 17, wherein the spacer further includes a pin portion on an upper surface of the spacer, and wherein the base further includes a pin-receiver portion at a lower surface of the base, wherein the pin portion is adapted to be insertible into the pin-receiver portion for promoting the alignment of the elements of the anchor.

[c21] 21. The anchor as recited in claim 17, wherein at least a portion of the fastener is threaded, and wherein the spacer aperture, through which the fastener is inserted, includes means for engaging the threads of the threaded fastener.

[c22] 22. The anchor as recited in claim 21, wherein the means

for engaging the threads of the threaded fastener include threaded inserts.

[c23] 23. The anchor as recited in claim 21, wherein the means for engaging the threads of the threaded fastener include protrusions.

[c24] 24. The anchor as recited in claim 21, wherein at least a portion of the fastener is threaded, and wherein the spacer aperture is correspondingly threaded to accept at least a portion of the threaded fastener.

[c25] 25. An arrangement for securing a load carrier to a transporting vehicle, the transporting vehicle having a channel, the channel having a generally C-shaped cross section with an access slot provided in a sidewall of the channel, said arrangement comprising: a base and an accommodation unit; and said accommodation unit being adapted for releaseable securement to the base, and having an insert tab, said insert tab extending longitudinally along the length of the accommodation unit, and adapted for insertion into the access slot, and having a distal end turned up for engagement with an interior lip of the access slot.

[c26] 26. An accommodation unit for use in combination with a base to form an anchor for securing a load carrier to a

transporting vehicle, the transporting vehicle having a channel that is generally C-shaped in cross section with an access slot provided in a sidewall of the channel, said accommodation unit comprising:
a stop including means for releasably securing the accommodation unit to the base; and
an insert tab extending longitudinally along the length of the accommodation unit, wherein the insert tab is adapted for insertion into the access slot, and wherein the insert tab has a distal end turned up for engagement with an interior lip of the access slot.

[c27] 27. An accommodation unit for use in combination with a base to form an anchor for securing a load carrier to a transporting vehicle, the transporting vehicle having a channel that is generally "C" shaped in cross section with an access slot provided in a sidewall of the channel, said accommodation unit comprising:
a substantially vertical stop plate having an upper edge in proximity to the base and a side wall in proximity to the access slot;
a fastener tab extending laterally from the upper edge of the stop plate, wherein the fastener tab has defined therethrough at least one stop plate aperture; and
an insert tab extending laterally from the side wall of stop plate, wherein the insert tab is adapted for insertion

into the access slot, and wherein the insert tab has a distal end turned up for engagement with an interior lip of the access slot.

[c28] 28. The accommodation unit of claim 27, wherein the stop plate aperture is threaded for engaging a corresponding portion of a threaded fastener.

[c29] 29. An arrangement for securing a load carrier to a transporting vehicle comprising an anchor mechanism adapted for securement to a track channel installed upon the transporting vehicle, the anchor mechanism for releasably receiving a carrier foot thereupon that is securable between secured and unsecured configurations, and a cover positionable upon the anchor mechanism when no carrier foot is received thereupon, the cover configured to provide a protective sheath over internal working mechanisms embodied substantially within the anchor mechanism during times of non-use.